

# Preventing Fentanyl Overdose

June 2022

## What is Fentanyl?

- Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid approved for treating severe pain, such as advanced cancer pain. It is **50-100** times more potent than morphine.
- Although prescription rates have fallen, overdoses associated with fentanyl have risen dramatically.
- Fentanyl is often mixed with other substances, such as heroin or cocaine, with or without user knowledge.

## QUICK TIPS

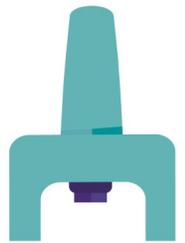
### Use Fentanyl Test Strips

Fentanyl test strips are easy to use and will inform you if your drugs have been mixed/laced with fentanyl. This is a great tool to prevent unnecessary fentanyl ingestion.



### Use Naloxone

Naloxone is a reversal drug that blocks opioids and prevents opioid overdose. Naloxone is another useful tool to preventing deadly overdose.



### Call 911

If an overdose occurs, call 911. First responders carry naloxone on them, and The Good Samaritan Law will protect you from arrest for possession of drugs.



### Use a Buddy System

When using drugs, it is best to be with someone in case of an overdose. Always make sure each person has naloxone, and fentanyl test strips if possible.



For additional information on fentanyl, visit:  
[www.CDC.gov/Opioids/Basics/Fentanyl.html](http://www.CDC.gov/Opioids/Basics/Fentanyl.html)



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